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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the previous claims with the following claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus that provides digital broadcast television programs to a subscriber, comprising:
 a receiver module that receives program data and a local authorization code, wherein the authorization code allows the digital broadcast television programs to be decrypted for viewing;
 a transmitter that sends a program selection to a scheduling web site, wherein the program selection is made from the program data;
 the scheduling web site that receives the program selection and sends an authorization request to an order and authorization system, wherein the scheduling web site is capable of recognizing the subscriber and providing an electronic program guide customized for the subscriber;
 the order and authorization system that receives the authorization request, including the program selection, from the scheduling web site and generates an authorization signal, the authorization signal providing the local authorization code; and
 a billing system that receives the authorization signal and generates a billing record.
2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the billing record debits a subscriber's account.
3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the billing system sends the billing record to a subscriber for payment.
4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the billing system charges a subscriber's credit card account.

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5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the billing record is used to debit a cash card included in a terminal, the billing system sending a debit signal corresponding to the billing record to the terminal.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the cash card is part of a smart card.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the order and authorization system sends a credit signal to a terminal upon receipt of payment from the subscriber.

8. (currently amended) An apparatus that provides digital broadcast television program ordering, comprising:

a scheduling web site that receives a program order for a terminal in a television distribution network and sends an authorization request to an order and authorization system, wherein the scheduling web site is capable of recognizing a subscriber and providing an electronic program guide customized for the subscriber;

the order and authorization system that receives the authorization request, including the program order, and generates an authorization signal that authorizes access to a program;

a broadcaster coupled to the order and authorization system that sends the program to the terminal, wherein the program is multiplexed with other digital broadcast television programs, wherein the broadcaster receives the authorization signal, the authorization signal providing a local authorization code addressed to the terminal, the local authorization code allowing the terminal to demultiplex, decrypt and display the program; and

a billing system coupled to the order and authorization system, the billing system receiving the authorization signal, including the program order, and generating a billing record.

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9. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the billing record is used to debit a cash card included in the terminal, the billing system sending a debit signal corresponding to the billing record to the terminal.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the cash card is part of a smart card.

11. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the cash card is removable or fixed to the smart card.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the order and authorization system includes a time out feature that allows cancellation of the program order without incurring a charge, the time out feature effective for a time prior to a start of the program and for a time after the start of the program.

13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the time after start of the program is five minutes.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the order and authorization system and the broadcaster are colocated with a billing system.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the order and authorization system sends a credit signal to a terminal upon receipt of payment from the subscriber.

16. (currently amended) A method for providing broadcast television digital programming, comprising:

generating program data related to the digital programming;

providing the program data;

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displaying, at a scheduling web site, the program data as an electronic program guide having a program menu, wherein the scheduling web site is capable of recognizing a subscriber and customizing the display of the electronic program guide for the subscriber;

receiving a program order at a scheduling web site, the program order designating one or more programs for viewing;

sending an authorization request from the scheduling web site to an order and authorization system;

sending a program authorization to a receiver module;

broadcasting the digital programming, wherein the program authorization provides access to the one or more programs designated by the program order; and

waiting for a time out period to determine if a cancel order signal has been received, and if the cancel order signal is not received in the time out period;

sending the program order to a billing system, and
preparing a billing record.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

waiting for a time out period to determine if a cancel order signal has been received, and if the cancel order signal is received in the time out period:

generating a deauthorization signal; and

transmitting the deauthorization signal, wherein the deauthorization signal removes access to a previously authorized program.

18. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising a debit signal corresponding to the billing record to a terminal, the debit signal debiting a cash card in the terminal.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the cash card is part of a smart card.

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20. (original) The method of claim 16 further comprising a credit signal corresponding to receipt of payment from a subscriber to a terminal.

21-37. (cancelled)

38. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, comprising a network controller that receives the authorization signal from the order and authorization system and generates the local authorization code.

39. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the network controller comprises a network management CPU linked to the order and authorization system.

40. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the order and authorization system is capable of receiving the authorization request by either an upstream data transmission over a cable distribution network or by a telephone line.

41. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the receiver module comprises a means to communicate with the Internet.

42. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the receiver module comprises a means to store text transmitted from the order and authorization system and the billing system at least one of a cable headend and an operations center, the transmitted text including information on billing and account status.

43. (currently amended) An apparatus that provides digital broadcast television programs to a subscriber, comprising:
a scheduling web site that receives a program selection and sends an authorization request to an order and authorization system, wherein the scheduling web

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site is capable of recognizing the subscriber and providing an electronic program guide customized for the subscriber;

the order and authorization system that receives the authorization request, including the program selection, from the scheduling web site and generates an authorization signal, the authorization signal providing a local authorization code; and

a billing system that receives the authorization signal and generates a billing record.

44. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the scheduling web site is an Internet web site.

45. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the scheduling web site is capable of recognizing the subscriber based on at least one of an automatic number identification (ANI), user name, user identification, and Internet address of the subscriber.

46. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the scheduling web site is capable of recognizing the subscriber by requiring the subscriber to log into the web site.

47. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the scheduling web site provides the electronic program guide customized for the subscriber, a generic electronic program guide, and a means to switch between the customized electronic program guide and the generic electronic program guide.

48. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, comprising a set top terminal having the receiver module and the transmitter, and wherein the set top terminal is capable of displaying the customized electronic program guide in at least one of (i) a separate window and (ii) a picture-in-picture format, so that a broadcast program can also be simultaneously displayed.

49. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the electronic program guide is customized according to previous programs ordered by the subscriber.

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50. (new) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the electronic program guide is customized according to programs watched data collected from the subscriber.

51. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, comprising a set top terminal having the receiver module and the transmitter, and wherein the electronic program guide is customized according to subscriber specific data stored in the set top terminal.

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